(c) and (d) An Expert Committee was constituted by the Government to review the list of Category-I drugs of Drug Prices Control Order 1987. Names of only National Health Programmes were communicated to the Expert Committee. Cancer Control Programme was not listed therein.

Medicines Needed for Control of Cancer

2190. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 4214 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that medicines needed for control of cancer are being sold at very high prices and importers have increased the prices without any justification;

(b) whether it is a fact that his Ministry at one time approved this programme for inclusion into the National Health Programme;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not providing assistance and help to cancer patients; and

(d) whether it is a fact that purchases of medicines for treatment of cancer is not contemplated by his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir. Price of drugs for treatment of cancer is regulated under the Drug Price Control Order, 1987.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Government Hospitals make purchase of drugs for treatment of cancer patients and some drugs are supplied free of cost to indoor and outdoor cancer patients depending upon the availability of funds and drugs.

Dowry death cases pending in High Courts

2191. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI M. KADHARSHA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Dowry death cases pending in the High Courts, High Court-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that some cases of dowry deaths are pending for want of stay order trial (Hearing) for more than one year in Allahabad High Court, if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take in this direction including the increase in strength of Judges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Recommendations for reducing arrears, on the basis of a Report of a Committee of three Chief Justices, have been sent to all the High Courts. The Judges strength has been increased from 351 in 1977 to 444 as on 1-11-1988. A proposal to create 88 more posts of Judges in the High Courts has been agreed to.

Co-operation of Non-aligned Countries in Development of Science and Technology

2192. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appealed to non-aligned nations and

developing countries to step up efforts for increasing indegenous capacity in science and technology;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the co-operative efforts suggested by the Minister of Science and Technology at the inauguration of first inter-governmental consultative conference on new and high technologies of non-aligned and developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c) India has always laid stress on self reliant efforts for development of the country. It has also advocated collective self-reliance by developing countries as a whole. In this context, a number of initiatives has been taken with the non-aligned nations as well as other developing countries. One such initiative pertains to the establishment of the Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-aligned and other Developing Countries (NAM Centre). It was also decided to have the first Intergovernmental Consultative Conference on new and high technologies of non-aligned and developing countries to identify certain specific activities of co-operation between various countries.

Five theme areas which were addressed at the Conference are:

Biotechnology

Microelectronics and Computer Software

Telecommunications and Informatics

Renewable Sources of Energy and New Energy Technologies

Advanced Materials.

Delegates from 25 countries attended the Conference and various experts discussed a number of items within these theme areas for specific follow-up.

The Minister of State for Science and Technology, at the inauguration of the conference, emphasised the need for the non-aligned and developing countries to get together for development of high technologies as well as technologies relevant to the third world by sharing experiences and after establishing joint projects bilaterally and among groups of countries.

Exclusion of Diazepam from D.P.C.O.

2193. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 533 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th November, 1988, and state:

(a) what are the basis on which Director General of Health Services recommended for exclusion of Diazepam and other Tranqullizers from Category-II of Drugs Prices Control Order;

(b) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has not the authority as per Drugs Policy announced in December, 1987 to identify or omit any drug from Category-II;

(c) if so, under what authority such a recommendation was made by DGHS;

(d) what are the details of representation received for exclusion, who submitted and what were the grounds given in the representation;

(e) whether it is a fact that his Ministry communicated to Ministry of Industry on 4th June, 1987 for inclusion of these drugs as essential under Category-I;

(f) is it also a fact that these drugs are covered under essential list of WHO and Kelkar Committee also treated as essential; and